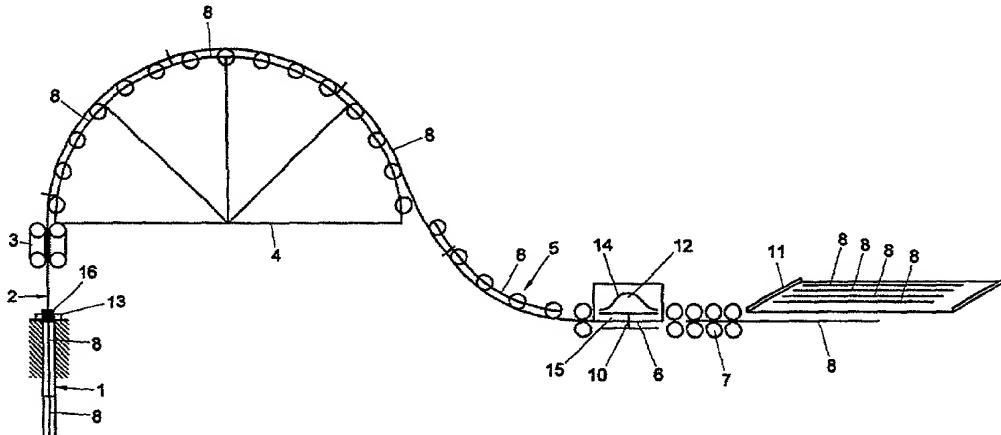


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(54) Title: PIPE HANDLING APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) Abstract

For introducing a tube (2; 52; 102) into a borehole (1) in the ground, the tube (2; 52; 102) is composed by adding tube parts (8; 58) to an end thereof at a location horizontally spaced from the well head (13; 63; 113) and axially travels to the well along a path including a curve. The jointing takes place at a relatively easily accessible location, where the risk of injury due to large moving parts is smaller. The radius of curvature of the tube in the curved parts of the path can be relatively large, so that plastic deformation of the tube remains limited. Separate tube parts (8; 58) can be transported more easily than a completed tube in a coiled configuration. Further, a method for removing a tube from a borehole in the lithosphere and an installation for carrying out the proposed method are disclosed as well.

ABSTRACT

For introducing a tube into a borehole in the ground, the tube is composed by adding tube parts to an end thereof at a location horizontally spaced from the well head and axially travels to the well along a path including a curve. The jointing takes place at a relatively easily accessible location, where the risk of injury due to large moving parts is smaller. The radius of curvature of the tube in the curved parts of the path can be relatively large, so that plastic deformation of the tube remains limited. Separate tube parts can be transported more easily than an completed tube in a coiled configuration. Further, a method for removing a tube from a borehole in the lithosphere and an installation for carrying out the proposed method are disclosed as well.